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[redacted]

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India

September 19[illegible]
1949

Volcanic Explosion in Travancore

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[redacted]

OF INFO
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x x

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1. An explosion is reported to have taken place near Kottayam in Travancore on 27 August 1949. This explosion was locally described as a "hillburst", and resembled a volcanic eruption. It occurred in a madhill at the foot of a mountain range. The explosion threw tons of mud and gushing water over an area of some ten square miles, and was followed by heavy landslides. Some 150 people were made homeless.

2. No explanation of the phenomenon was given. It is suggested that peculiar geological formations of these foothills which have a rockstrewn crust may have caused the burst.

3. There are no rumors of an atomic explosion in this area.

ILLEGIB

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